

How and When to Register Proposed Experience?

Applications are available by writing or calling the Board office. The address and telephone number are listed on the reverse side of this brochure.

Your completed application and plan must be submitted to the Board office for approval prior to the beginning of your RPE. Both the statutes and regulations require prior approval of any RPE plan. If you begin your RPE without approval from the Board, you and your supervisor will be subject to a citation and fine for unlicensed activity.

You will not receive credit for any time spent in the RPE setting without prior approval by the Board.

Prior to completing the Temporary Required Professional Experience License application, review the supervision requirements (Section 1399.153.3 of the California Code of Regulations.)

The \$35.00 application fee must accompany the application. Once you and your supervisor have received a letter of approval from the Board office, you may begin your RPE. Your temporary license will be mailed to you under separate cover.

If you wish to check the status of your RPE temporary license, you may log on to our website at www.slpab.ca.gov. Go to "Verify a License" and enter your last name to determine whether your license has been issued. If so, you will be provided with a license number, issue date and expiration date.

How Much Experience Is Required?

A minimum of 36 weeks full-time experience or a minimum of 72 weeks part-time experience is required. It may be completed on a full-time basis, a part-time basis, or a combination of the two.

Full-time is defined as working 30 hours or more per week. Part-time is defined as working between 15 and 29 hours per week.

How Much Supervision Is Required?

Full-time experience requires a minimum of 8 hours per month direct supervision. Part-time experience requires a minimum of 4 hours per month direct supervision.

At least 50% of the supervision must take place while the RPE candidate is providing professional services. The remaining 50% of the time may be spent reviewing reports, treatment plans, conferencing, etc.

What If A Change In My RPE Plan Becomes Necessary? Whom Do I Notify?

You are no longer required to report to the Board any changes in the RPE. However, each new supervisor will be required to read and sign the Supervisor Responsibility Statement. The supervisor should retain page 1 of the statement, and return page 2 with his/her original signature to this office within 30 days. It is your responsibility to ensure that each required professional experience plan meets the requirements as detailed in the RPE Acknowledgement Statement.

Failure to follow these requirements could result in a deficiency in your professional experience.

What Qualifications Must A Supervisor Meet?

The RPE supervisor must hold current licensure in California unless the experience is to be obtained in the public schools, grades K through 12, out-of-state or as an employee of a federal agency. In these settings, a current Certificate of Clinical Competence may suffice. Licenses are renewed on a biennial basis.

What Academic, Clinical And Examination Requirements Must I Meet?

To begin your RPE you must possess a master's degree or have qualifications deemed equivalent by the Board. See Section 1399.152.1 of the California Code of Regulations.

A minimum of 24 semester units of coursework in the field for which you are seeking licensure is required and a minimum of 36 semester units of coursework in the related areas is required.

"Official transcripts" must be sent directly to the Board office by the school. Transcripts received in any other form are not acceptable.

A minimum of 300 clock hours of supervised clinical practicum must be listed on the form provided and must be verified by the director of your graduate program. He/she may verify both undergraduate and graduate programs. All information must be typed or printed in ink and must be legible.

A minimum score of 600 in the Educational Testing Service - National Teacher Examination (ETS/NTE), now called the Praxis Series, in speech-language pathology or audiology, is required. The exam score must be no more than 5 years old at the time of filing. ETS/NTE or Praxis Series must send the scores directly to the Board office. California's reporting code is R8544. Use of this number will expedite the mailing.

What Restrictions And/or Exemptions Must I Be Aware Of With Regard To Setting?

Experience for speech-language pathology licensure obtained in an SLD/A classroom is creditable at one-half time and must be completed over 2 full school years.

Similarly, experience for audiology licensure obtained in a hearing aid office must consist of more than just minimal testing necessary to fit or sell a hearing aid. If you have questions, please call the Board office for guidance.

Effective July 1, 2003, any person obtaining their required professional experience for licensure in California must hold the RPE Temporary License regardless of the work setting. (i.e. employment in the public school is no longer exempt for the purposes of completing the RPE.)

What About The Social Security Disclosure Statement And The Fingerprint Requirement?

The Board is required to provide the California Franchise Tax Board (FTB) with each applicant and licensee's Social Security Number. Failure to provide this information could subject you to a \$100 fine by the FTB.

Even though you have filed a fingerprint card for a teaching credential, you must file a separate card for state licensure. The Department of Justice will not provide one agency with information submitted by another agency.

What Happens At The End Of The RPE?

A form for verification of the supervised experience is contained in the RPE application packet for completion by the RPE supervisor. The verification form and any missing materials the applicant has not previously provided must be forwarded to the Board office within ten (10) working days after the completion of the RPE. Once the RPE ends, the RPE must cease practice on the date stated on the approval letter from the Board. Practice beyond the RPE end date is unlicensed activity.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q. Does the experience have to be completed within a specific period of time?

A. There are no restrictions on the length of time it takes to complete the RPE. However, any change in dates or requests for extensions of the RPE period must be approved by the Board office.

Q. Who is responsible for filing the RPE plan?

A. This is a joint responsibility of you and your supervisor. Working without approval is considered unlicensed practice for which you and your supervisor will be subject to a citation and fine.

Q. Can I do my RPE and CFY (Clinical Fellowship Year) at the same time?

A. Yes. We suggest you call ASHA for information on certification.

Q. Are there any restrictions on the services an RPE candidate may provide?

A. The only restrictions on an RPE are:

- 1) An RPE cannot be self employed.
- 2) An RPE cannot pay someone to supervise them. An RPE must be employed to provide professional services.
- 3) An RPE candidate may not supervise students or aides.

Q. Who is responsible for notification of a change in the plan?

A. Your supervisor must submit the Supervisor Responsibility Statement within 30 days of beginning supervision.

Applications and/or further information may be obtained by writing or calling:

Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board
2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 2100
Sacramento, California 95815
(916) 263-2666
fax (916) 263-2668
website: www.slpab.ca.gov
e-mail: slpab@dca.ca.gov

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PLANNING TO START YOUR REQUIRED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (RPE) FOR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY OR AUDIOLOGY LICENSURE?



Legal Requirements

Helpful Hints and

Frequently Asked Questions